

**Health and Human Needs Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 17, 2010**  
**4:18 P.M.**  
**Third Floor, City Hall**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Chair:</b>	CW Welch
	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	CM Kramer
	<b>Members:</b>	CW Butler, CM Benson and CW Woolridge
<b>Also Present:</b>		CW Ward-Pugh, CW Bryant Hamilton, CM Henderson, CM Heiner and CM Johnson

Chairman Welch began the meeting by announcing the members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

### Special Items For Discussion

## Artificial Trans Fat Report from Board of Health - Dr. Adewale Troutman

**Discussion:** Dr. Adewale Troutman, Director of the Health Department, spoke to the item. Dr. Troutman gave a slide presentation and handouts. The following was discussed:

Dr. Troutman stated the report and recommendation that he was going to present to the committee came from the Task Force of the combined Health Department and the Board of Health which made their presentation to the Department and him per the terms of the Resolution that was passed by the Metro Council.

He stated in his opinion government's primary role is the health and safety of its population and in that regards there have been numerous instances over the years where food industries have added things to the food supply preservatives, artificial coloring all kinds of things for color and stability. When it one of these elements has been added to the food supply and is dangerous to individuals either through animal experimentation or through expiating knowledge there have been organizing efforts on the part of consumers and governments to remove those elements from the food supply because cause harm and damage. The scientific community agrees artificial trans fats are contributory to cardiac vascular disease, strokes, diabetes and in that context are felt to harmful to the health of human beings. Part of the challenge is there is still confusion and a significant amount of individuals who do not understand what this is all about both on the side of businesses and consumers.

- ❖ The primary function of Trans fat is only used to extend the shelf life
- ❖ Two-Key Points about Artificial Trans Fat 1 – 2 (**Attachment**)
- ❖ About Artificial Trans Fat
- ❖ What Types of Food Contain Artificial Trans Fat
- ❖ Review of the Trans Fat Issue in Louisville
- ❖ Conduct Education Programs
- ❖ The Department of Public Health and Wellness
- ❖ Conduct Education Programs
  - ✓ The Louisville Metro Board of Health held two Community forums on October 27 and 29, 2009
- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Benefits Option #1 - Legislated Ban
- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Option #1 – Legislated Ban
- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Option #1 Legislated Ban – Enforcement
- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Option #2 – Menu Labeling
- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Option #2 Barriers – Menu Labeling

- ❖ Appropriate Regulatory Action
  - ✓ Option #3 – Voluntary Program
- ❖ The Elimination of Artificial Trans Fats
- ❖ Summary
  - ✓ Objective scientific evidence unambiguously indicates that consumption of artificial trans fat sharply raise the risk of heart disease and stroke even when consumed in amounts as small as 2 grams per day. Trans fat is also a contributor to the rising epidemic of diabetes
  - ✓ Artificial trans fat is not necessary in food preparation. It is used to give food a long shelf life and is believed to be less expensive
- ❖ As the Director of Public Health and Wellness he recommended the following:
  1. An immediate and significantly expanded public education program on the dangers of artificial trans fat and the alternatives available to eliminate its use in food preparation
  2. The launching of a citywide voluntary campaign designed to remove the use of artificial of trans fats in Metro Louisville food service establishments.
  3. Development of a technical assistance service to provide advice on establishments moving to trans fat free status
  4. Survey of all establishments to determine current practice and establish a baseline for moving forward
  5. Reevaluate movement towards artificial trans fat food preparation after an appropriate interval to evaluate the need for further action
  6. Menu labeling
  7. Approval of funding to carry out these recommendations

CM Johnson gave funding for the Education Program.

#### **Concerns:**

- ❖ Asked businesses to volunteer - regarding Trans fat and labeling
- ❖ Focus on the consumer - preparation of foods in the homes
- ❖ Have someone to come before the committee from the restaurants to see how they will be affected if the Metro Council passes legislation
- ❖ Think about supply and demand when it comes to the Artificial trans fats – local businesses
- ❖ Fairness to all businesses regarding trans fat
- ❖ How will the local businesses be affected directly or indirectly under the proposal that is being introduced
- ❖ Will the advertising be negative or positive
- ❖ Menu Labeling -
- ❖ Small restaurant- will they show the labeling regarding trans fat
- ❖ Information on New York City
  - Volunteer program for a year and then New York put the ban in place
- ❖ Palm oil is supposed to be unhealthy
- ❖ How were the stakeholders chosen
  - Dr. Troutman will get a list of all present
- ❖ Who made up the Task Force
  - Members from Dr. Troutman Department and the Board of Health and a Project Manger to help get the report in place
- ❖ How will Dr. Troutman and the Health Department move forward in implementing
  - CM Pugh stated she was willing to support

Chairwoman Welch stated they would like for Dr. Troutman to come back at a later date to see how the local restaurants are doing

**The item below was heard first**

#### **Pending Legislation**

R-34-02-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF CERAMIC

SPACE HEATERS FROM METRO UNITED WAY VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY \$7,830.00 TO BE USED BY THE COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP (CAP) FOR DISTRIBUTION TO CLIENTS OF THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP).

**Status:** In-Committee  
**Committee:** Health & Human Needs  
**Primary Sponsor:** Mary C. Woolridge

Motion to approve made by Mary C. Woolridge and seconded by Stuart Benson.

**Discussion:** Becky Montague, Assistant Director of Community Action Partnership spoke to the item. The following was discussed.

- ❖ The donation from Metro United Way \$7,830.00
- ❖ 74 Space Heaters for the LIHEAP Program
  - ✓ Will distribute to families that are eligible for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance program
  - ✓ Have distributed 138 Heaters to date
  - ✓ 36 Space Heaters are left
  - ✓ Contact number 574-1157
  - ✓ For Heater distribution - contact the office located at 810 Barret Avenue
  - ✓ Offices also at the Newburg Community Center and Southwest Government Center

**Passed**

**For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0**

**For: Mary C. Woolridge, Kevin Kramer, Vicki Aubrey Welch, Marianne Butler, Stuart Benson**

**Against: (None)**

**Abstain: (None)**

**Absent: (None)**

By unanimous vote, this item was sent to the **Consent Calendar** on the February 25, 2010 Council Agenda.

**CM Kramer made a motion to Adjourn, without objection**

**The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.**

**\*NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council Meeting on February 25, 2010.**

**MM**